

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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O P 141100Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

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INFO AMEMBASSY NNNKARA PRIORITY

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 2840

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR CY GR

SUBJ: CYPRUS: DISCUSSION WITH BITSIOS

1. OVER THE WEEKEND I HAD THE OPPORTUNITY FOR A LONG
TALK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS ON A VARIETY OF
SUBJECTS, REPORTED SEPARATELY, INCLUDING CYPRUS.

2. IN RESPONSE TO MY QUESTION ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF
CLERIDES RESIGNING, BITSIOS SAID HE BELIEVED THAT THIS
PROBLEM WAS NOW BEHIND US AND THAT CLERIDES WOULD GO TO
VIENNA ON SCHEDULE FOR THE APRIL 28 TALKS BEGINNING THERE.

3. I SAID I HAD HEARD SOME REPORTS THERE WOULD BE A NEW
"SUMMIT" MEETING IN ATHENS WITH CLERIDES, MAKARIOS,
CARAMANLIS AND OTHERS TO ADAPT AND REALIGN THE GREEK POSITION
AND INQUIRED WHETHER THIS WAS TRUE. BITSIOS SAID NO THAT
THERE WOULD BE NO "SUMMIT" AS SUCH, BUT THAT IT HAD BEEN
AGREED THAT MAKARIOS WOULD STOP IN ATHENS AFTER REPEAT AFTER
AND ON HIS WAY BACK FROM THE COMMONWEALTH MEETING IN
JAMAICA. AS FOR THE UPCOMING TALKS IN VIENNA, BITSIOS
SAID THAT HE WAS STILL PRESSING TO GET THE UNSYG'S STAFF
TO DO SOME IMPORTANT AND POTENTIALLY VERY VALUABLE
PREPARATORY WORK IN PREPARING A PROGRAM AND AGENDA FOR THE
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VIENNA DISCUSSIONS. (BITSIOS HAD EARLIER SUGGESTED THAT

BOTH THE CLERIDES AND THE DENKTASH PROPOSALS BE CAREFULLY
EXAMINED IN AN EFFORT TO TRY AND IDENTIFY POINTS OF
POSSIBLE AGREEMENT, AND DIFFERENCES TO BE NEGOTIATED
TOGETHER WITH SUGGESTED MEANS OF BRIDGING THE DIFFERENCES.)
IN ANY CASE, BITSIOS SAID, THE IMPORTANT THING WAS TO GET
THE TALKS GOING AGAIN IN VIENNA AND TO MAKE CERTAIN THAT
DENKTASH DID NOT MAKE SOME IMPOSSIBLE DEMANDS OR SPRING
SOME NEW SURPRISES THERE THAT WOULD LEAD TO ANOTHER
ABRUPT BREAKOFF OF THE NEGOTIATIONS. KUBISCH

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